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October 2001

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DINNER MEETING

Thursday, October 18, 2001

Featuring

Mark Reid, C.P.A., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Accounting, University of New Orleans

"Tax Planning Strategies Associated with the Coordination of Education Incentives"

Dr. Mark Reid, Assistant Professor of Accounting at the University of New Orleans and CPA, will discuss Educational Incentive Programs, the various definitions of "qualified education expenses," show how the coordination rules are used to calculate the tax consequences of these incentives, and discuss planning strategies. This informative talk will last approximately fifty minutes and will qualify for one hour of professional education credit.

Please join us for an informative and enjoyable event.

For reservations contact, Vincent Parenti (255-6412) at vincent.parenti@usda.gov
or Ron Parent (255-6589) at ron.parent@usda.gov
by Noon Tuesday, October 16th.
If possible, please pay Ron Parent in advance.

FROM THE
PRESIDENT

Well, our first dinner meeting of the program year was a huge success! We socialized prior to the meeting, enjoyed a delicious dinner and an informative speaker, and socialized afterwards. Thanks to all who attended and all who helped make the night a success. A special thanks to Linda Lewis who arranged for our speaker, Professor James, at such short notice. Also, Linda invited two guests to the dinner meeting who are now AGA members. Thanks Linda!

Inviting guests to our dinner meetings is a great way to recruit new members. Increasing our membership is one of our primary goals for this year. I want to remind everyone of the early career membership for those who are in their first six years of government accounting. The cost for early career membership is only \$40. I also want to remind everyone that all new members are entitled to one free dinner as well as free admission to the Christmas party and Zephyrs game. Let's all try to recruit at least one new member for this program year.

I have one special announcement to make for those who were unable to attend the dinner meeting at Cannon's. Our own Jullin Renthrope will be running for National President for the 2003-2004 program year. On behalf of the New Orleans Chapter, I would like to congratulate Jullin and wish him the best.

Now, for upcoming events...

Join AGA in our next community service event, the scraping and painting of a home during Christmas in October. The dates we will be painting are Saturday, October 6, and Saturday, October 13. We have participated

in this event the last two years with much success. The homeowners were truly proud and grateful of our work for beautifying their homes. I believe all who have participated will agree with me that this is a fun event that provides a rewarding experience. Please call Marcie Tureaud at 255-7818 to sign up if you haven't already.

We are also accepting and encouraging suggestions for future educational events. I want to welcome Sherrill Wheeler who has agreed to help Betty Salisbury on the Education Committee. Thanks Sherrill! Also, if anyone else would like to assist on the Education Committee, please contact either Betty or Sherrill.

We need you! Your membership, support, and participation are critical to the success of this organization. It is our mission to create a professional environment for networking, education, community service, friendship, and fun. So please join in!

I hope to see you at Christmas in October and at our next dinner meeting on Thursday, October 18, at Vincent's City Club. This will be a joint meeting with the National Association of Black Accountants. Please call Vincent Parenti to make your reservation and come early for 5:30 p.m. for socializing.

Until then,
Chris

AGA's SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

The September meeting of the Association of Government Accountants was held at Cannon's Restaurant on September 20, 2001. President, Chris Cutitto, called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. Chris introduced Ron Tamborella who gave the invocation and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chris introduced the head table including the night's speaker, Dr. Tyronne James. Chris then introduced Kevin LeBlanc and Beth Haynes, who were guests of Dr. James. Chris then introduced this year's AGA officers.

Marcie Tureaud gave a report on Public Service events. Last week several volunteers helped paint Shaw Elementary School and on October 6th and 13th, members will help paint and scrape the home at 1822 Mandeville, everyone is encouraged to volunteer for "Christmas in October."

On October 9th, AGA will be answering telephones for the WYES auction. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Marcie Tureaud or Freida Scott.

Marcie also reminded everyone that the chapter is collecting canned goods and magazines at each monthly meeting.

Betty Salisbury, the Education Chairperson, gave a report on education. AGA had its first educational seminar in August at the National Finance Center and the profit was approximately \$3,000.00.

Chris announced the meeting sites for the next few months. The meeting will be held at Vincent's Restaurant in October. It will be a joint meeting with the National Association of

Black Accountants. November will be a luncheon meeting at Dickey Brennan's Steak House in the French Quarter and the Christmas party will be held at Eastover Country Club.

Jullin Renthrope made two announcements: He is selling raffle tickets on a cruise for the St. Augustine Band to finance their trip to play in the Tournament of Roses Parade.

His second announcement was that the national office has approached him to consider running for National President. Jullin is asking for the Chapter's support in this endeavor.

The meeting broke for dinner. After dinner the night's speaker, Dr. Tyronne James was introduced. Dr. James gave a very insightful talk on how last week's terrorist attack will possibly affect our economy. Dr. James cited tourism, transportation, the casinos, real estate transactions, decreases in travel, people spending less and the erosion of our civil liberties possibly being affected by this tragedy.

Dr. James reported different examples of people being affected by this act of terrorism. The AICPA lost three people, two members of Price Waterhouse along with one of their children were on board one of the planes that crashed.

Dr. James was given a speaker's gift at the conclusion of the evening's presentation. Dr. James drew the winning 50/50 raffle ticket and the winner was Ron Parent.

Chris introduced two new members, Audrey Wheeler and Pat Hanks. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Dawn Wagener, CGFM/Secretary

EDUCATION

Start of Education Team for New Orleans Chapter

Sherrill Wheeler has joined forces with me to form an Education Committee for the New Orleans Chapter of AGA. Thanks Sherrill! Your energy and ideas will be a tremendous asset to our organization.

This is our first step in building a strong education program for the future. Our fellow AGA chapters have recommended that we build an education team with several members. We especially need representation from the various segments of the governmental accounting community. Your participation and your input are what makes the difference.

Please contact Betty Salisbury at (504) 255-2344 or at Betty.Salisbury@usda.gov if you have some ideas or you would like to join this team. Let's increase our educational opportunities!

Thanks again, Betty

COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWS

We have two Community Service projects for the month of October.

Christmas in October: The dates are October 6th and the 13th. The times are 8:00 a.m.-12 noon or 12 noon-4:00 p.m. We will be scraping and painting the house of Mrs. Rosemary Johnson at 1822 Mandeville Street. She has been in the neighborhood since 1963. We will be working with "The Insurance

Women of Greater New Orleans" group whom we worked with last year. Please let me know what days you are willing to work.

WYES: Friday, October 19, 2001 from 5:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. We are looking for ten (10) volunteers to answer the phones for the Art Auction.

If you're interested in participating, please contact Marcie at 255-7818 or at marcie.turead@usda.gov or Freida Scott at 255-5706 or at freida.scott@usda.gov.

2001 AGA CALENDAR

Oct. 26 - Nominations for National Office are due.

Oct. 29-30 - AGA's 10th Annual State and Local Government Leadership Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

Nov. 9 - Nominations due for Federal Leadership Awards. Nominees do not have to be AGA members.

Dec. 7 - National Executive Committee Meeting, AGA National Office, Alexandria VA.



NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 15, 2001: Dickie Brennan's Steakhouse

Dec. 14, 2001: Eastover Country Club Christmas Party

Jan. 17, 2002: NFC Lunch Meeting

Feb. 21, 2002: Doug's Restaurant

Mar. 27, 2002: Five Happiness Joint Dinner Meeting with ASWA

April 2002: Joint Dinner Meeting with Baton Rouge Chapter (Location To Be Determined)

May 10, 2002: Social Event (Location To Be Determined)

NATIONAL NEWS

AGA Learns of Member Casualties

Three AGA members were on the list of casualties in the September 11th attack on the Pentagon. The three were members of the Northern Virginia Chapter.

Missing and presumed dead is Patricia E. (Patti) Mickley, CGFM, a U.S. Department of Defense employee from Springfield, VA. According to an acquaintance, Ms. Mickley was in her mid to late 30s and was the mother of at least one young child. Listed as killed are two Department of the Army employees Diana B. Padro, 55, of Woodbridge, VA and Janice M. Scott, 46, of Springfield, VA. Ms. Padro, a staff accountant with the Army, leaves her husband Jose and her sons Jose, 23, and

Juan, 19. She was Army veteran originally from Puerto Rico. Ms. Scott, an Army budget analyst, lived with her husband and two children and spent a week this summer traveling in the south, tracing her ancestry.

"The entire AGA community grieves the loss of these three members of our AGA family and our profession," said AGA National President Richard Norment. "These people were consummate public servants who died serving their country. I ask all of you to remember these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers."

The attack on the Pentagon also took the lives of 13 members of our partner organization, the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC). President Norment has determined that our fund raising efforts shall span the length of our program year, with donations accepted at all three national conferences. Upon the close of the 2002 PDC in Atlanta next July, the proceeds shall be split evenly among the AGA families who lost loved ones.

Send your donation to the AGA Relief Effort, AGA National Office, 2208 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301-1314. Checks should be made payable to the AGA Relief Effort. We thank you for your support.

EDITORS CORNER

This poem, by Atlanta writer Rob Suggs, published in the New Orleans Times Picayune on September 24, 2001, is based on the Dr. Seuss classic, "The Grinch." It commemorates the tragic events on September 11, 2001, from a child's point of view.

The Binch

Every U down in U-ville liked U.S. a lot, but the Binch, who lived Far East of U-ville, did not. The Binch hated U.S.! The whole U.S. way! Now don't ask me why, for nobody can say. It could be his turban was screwed on too tight. Or the sun from the desert had beaten too bright. But I think that the most likely reason of all may have been that his heart was two sizes too small.

But, whatever the reason, his heart or his turban, he stood facing U-ville, the part that was urban. "They're doing their business," he snarled from his perch. "They're raising their families! They're going to church! They're leading the world, and their empire is thriving. I MUST keep the S's and U's from surviving!"

Tomorrow, he knew, all the U's and the S's would put on their pants and their shirts and their dresses. They'd go to their offices, playgrounds and schools, and abide by their U and S values and rules.

And then they'd do something he liked least of all, every U down in U-ville, the tall and the small, would stand all united, each U and each S. And they'd sing Uville's anthem, "God bless us! God bless!" All around their Twin Tower's of Uville, they'd stand. And their voices would drown every sound in the land.

"I must stop that singing," Binch said with a smirk, And he had an idea - an idea that might work! So he stole some U airplanes in U morning hours, and crashed them into the Uville Twin Tower's. "They'll wake to disaster!" he snickered, so sour, "And how can they sing when they can't find a towers?"

The Binch cocked his ear as they woke from their sleeping, all set to enjoy their U-wailing and weeping. Instead he heard something that started quite low, And it built up quite slow, but it started to grow - And the Binch heard the most unpredictable thing . . . And he couldn't believe it - they started to sing!

He stared down at U-ville, not trusting his eyes, What he saw was a shocking, disgusting surprise! Every U down in U-ville, the tall and the small, was singing! Without any towers at all! He HADN'T stopped U-Ville from singing! It sung! For down deep in the hearts of the old and the young, Those Twin Towers were standing, called Hope and called Pride, and you can't smash the towers we hold deep inside!

So we circle the sites where our heroes did fall, with a hand in each hand of the tall and the small, and we mourn for our losses while knowing we'll cope. For we still have inside the U-Pride and U-Hope. For America means a bit more than tall towers, it means more than wealth or political powers, it's more than our enemies ever could guess. So may God bless America! Bless us! God Bless!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Our New Orleans Chapter of AGA wishes to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Yolanda (Yolie) Genovese
Patricia Hanks
Monique Banks
Archie McDonald, Jr.

All new members receive a complimentary dinner meeting of their choice. Welcome, and I hope to see at the next meeting.

What's new in MEMBER NEWS

Want to stay up to date in AGA news? Have you logged into the AGA website lately? You can access the website at www.agacgm.org. You'll need your AGA ID number as your login and use your first initial immediately followed by your last name as your password. Every member has access to his/her membership and can edit the data online. Check out this site for member happenings and news, new member listings, and lots, lots more. If you need help accessing the website, call 1-800-AGA-7211 and the AGA staff will be happy to assist you.

SPONSOR'S HONOR ROLL

We, the AGA family, appreciate all of your efforts for recruiting new members for the New Orleans Chapter. Our recruiters are presented below:

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Ronald Parent | 1 |
| Edna A. Harrell | 1 |
| Chris Cutitto | 1 |
| Lila Thompson | 1 |

Thank you for taking the time to recruit!! Don't forget to have your name added to the sponsor's line on the member's application to receive sponsor credit.

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS

BALANCE SHEET

As of September 30, 2001

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank One Checking \$13,433.53

Bank One Savings 4,263.79

Total Checking/Saving \$17,697.32

Total Current Assets \$17,697.32

TOTAL ASSETS \$17,697.32

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Opening Bal Equity \$ 7,629.31

Retained Earnings 7,115.37

Net Income 2,952.64

Total Equity \$17,697.32

**TOTAL LIABILITIES &
EQUITY \$17,697.32**

INCOME STATEMENT

August - September 2001

INCOME

Education/Training \$13,000.24

Business Meetings 682.00

50/50 Raffle 54.00

Zephyr Ball Game 8.00

Chapter Dues 190.00

TOTAL INCOME \$13,934.24

EXPENSES

Education/Training \$ 9,780.00

Business Meetings 720.89

50/50 Raffle 27.00

Postage 253.71

Xmas Party Expenses 200.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$10,981.60

NET INCOME \$ 2,952.64

**DINNER MEETING
VINCENT'S CITY CLUB**

October 18, 2001
Social 5:30 p.m.
Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Lake Forest Plaza
5700 Read Blvd. Unit 240
New Orleans, LA 70127

MENU

Choice of Danish Baby Back Ribs, Grilled Pork Chops,
Fried Shrimp and/or Catfish, Barbecued Half Chicken or Pasta Vincent,

Choice of Creamy Cole Slaw, Side Salad,
Home Style Fries or Creamy Red Beans

Choice of Coke, Sprite or Iced Tea
Dessert

COST
\$ 16.50

For reservations contact, Vincent Parenti (255-6412) at vincent.parenti@usda.gov
or Ron Parent (255-6589) at ron.parent@usda.gov
by Noon Tuesday, October 16th.